

Huttons Moor

Princeton, Vermont, U.S.A.

Sept 10 - 1900

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1911-12

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

(From Principal Hutton)

Perhaps I may supplement the resolution of the College Council briefly:

(1) I do not want to lay stress on the argument that this building was universally known as University College, and as University College ~~xxx~~ only; because in those days there was no University of Toronto except as an examining body, and all teaching was then done by the College: and the argument that this building must therefore remain University College for all time might appear sophistical. The question whether this building was to be for the future the College or the University could only arise, after the University became a teaching body.

(2) I am going, therefore, to speak of this building only as it has been since the University became a teaching body, and therefore conceivably became the occupant and proprietor of this building.

Now, the point is that the very same causes which brought about the transformation of the University into a teaching body, removed it partially from the first, and have been removing it continually ever since from the occupancy and proprietorship of this building.

Those causes were of course the growth of Science, namely, the growth of large and independent laboratories

requiring separate buildings of their own.

Once Chemistry was taught in this building -- in this very room in fact where we are meeting. Then a separate building became necessary for Chemistry, and Chemistry moved out.

Then Physics occupied this and the adjoining rooms: then Physics required a separate building and moved out: and so with Biology and Geology.

So that just as fast as the University became a properly equipped teaching place for the Sciences, it gave up all use of this building.

What University subjects remain here now ? (1) Only Mathematics and Mechanics, which are naturally nearer allied to Physics than to other subjects, and would more naturally be housed in or near the Physics department (Professor Fields is housed there already) and (2) Political Science, which already is housed at present outside this building in the new Medical building, and naturally may be expected in the future to be housed with other subjects of Sociology in a building devoted to that department, and (3) History and Experimental Psychology. Of these the last named, Experimental psychology, naturally, if it developed sufficiently, would require its own laboratory and building: and so we are left with History as the one department still centred in this building.

History, however, has close affinities with Law and Constitutional History, and would find its natural home some day in connection with a building devoted to Law and Constitutional History, and in any case it is the single subject

which still remains without present affiliations to other buildings than this one.

(3) Conversely, of course, the subjects which still belong to the College have never moved out of this building and have been here for fifty years. Why should they move out ? The only possible reason is that Administration requires this building: but, against that the College has an even better case than against History, or Political Science, or Mathematics.

 If there be in this age such a thing as sacrilege, if the word have still any meaning, it is little short of sacrilege to surrender to mere administration and machinery, the only building which has unbroken academic or teaching traditions, the only building round which academic sentiment can gather and has gathered from a long past, the only building, too, which has some pretention to be worthy of art and learning and idealism without admixture of the merely technical and professional and money-making.

(4) But why raise the question at all ? Only because we have reached the point when the building is not sufficient for the College and for Administration together. The Registrar and the Bursar require more rooms, and the College requires more rooms, and we cannot both be accommodated much longer under one roof: it is only a question which is to go.

(5) When I recollect even in my experience of only thirty-four years here the time when the Bursar was on Simcoe Street and the Registrar on Toronto Street: when the Bursar was never seen here, and the Registrar of the University only on

rare occasions, and in one small office, I do not think that the claims of these excellent and necessary departments can rival the College claim, even though we were to dismiss altogether the argument from academic tradition, from academic sentiment, and from the intrinsic impropriety of turning a building such as this, into a financial office, or a public registry office of deeds and parchments.

(6) The sole and single objection to their moving out is that they ought to be easily accessible to the President, and that the President is an academic figure and should not be confounded with an administrator of finance or a guardian of archives.

 That scruple we respect. I should feel it myself in his place (even though my long connection with the College should seal my lips). But our contention is that the natural and proper scruples of the President, and his equally natural and necessary wish to be in touch with the Registrar and Bursar, must not be allowed to sacrifice this building and to sacrifice the College.

 If a building is erected for Bursar and Registrar and President in immediate proximity to this building, in actual contact even -- if that seems best -- we are not objecting. The new building even though it form an actual part of this, will not be the College, will not have the associations or the sentiments about ^{it} which have gathered round this building.

 It is not for us to suggest a site for such a

building. We confine ourselves to pointing out that this building has been in the past the centre of the teaching of the University of Toronto: it can no longer be the centre of all the teaching of the University: it can no longer be the natural centre of any of the Science-teaching of the University. But it can remain, and it certainly ought to remain a teaching centre, and it certainly ought not to be sacrificed to administration such as could be conducted just as naturally and as well and as efficiently, in the simplest, the most unadorned, the most practical and most severely matter-of-fact place.

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March 2 1915

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University College, Toronto
PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

My dear Colonel. I was speaking to S. Clark lately & to the President
about my daughter, who desires to go as a supernumerary nurse
(not being fully trained) at my expense with the base hospital

I had better send a few lines to you.

She has been eating out her heart to go since August & has been
taking medical lectures from Dr. Webb & has lessons in massage
twice a week from a professional masseuse. She has boundless
determination & force of character & will never shrink: still less
will she fly the job, if that. She commands fluent French &
Italian & can interpret either. She is ready to do housework
work & make herself generally useful. She is well known to
Primrose & Macheuzie & on that account her mother is ready
to let her go though she loses her own nurse (so doing). If you
can help her in any way you will oblige yours
Maurice Mutton

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September 11th, 1914

Principal Button,

Little Metis, 2.

My dear Principal:

I telegraphed you last night that the Board had yesterday afternoon made the appointments that you recommended of Miss Parkin and Miss Carr-Harris for Queen's Hall. Will you kindly notify them? They should come to Toronto at once because questions are coming up that require decision almost immediately, and I suppose in any case they will need to get their staff arranged for.

What do you think of the advisability of raising the board in Queen's Hall to an average of six dollars? Prices are going up and Miss Ryley tells me that she may not be able to keep the prices of the Dining Hall down at the same figure as last year. Mrs. Campbell always ran Queen's Hall on a very economical basis and spoke to me more than once about the low price that was being charged. If the price is to go up I think those who are going in should be notified at once so that when they come to Toronto they will be prepared for the increase. If you will let me have your opinion on this I can arrange with Mr. Will and get the necessary authority?

Yours sincerely,

President.

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May 17th, 1915

Principal Putton,

University College.

Dear Principal Putton:

Will you be kind enough to present
Hon. Mr. Justice Stewart for the degree of Doctor of Laws
- at the Convocation on Friday, May 21st ?

Yours sincerely,

President.

